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By the Queene.

¶ A proclamation of the Queenes Maieſties pardon graunted to certaine of her ſubiectes vppon the weſt borders, hauyng offended by Leonard Dacres abuſyng of them, in a rebellion lately ſtirred by him.

THe Queenes Maieſtie beyng inſourmed, that in a late rebellion attempted by Leonard Dacres in Cumberlande, within the weſt Wardenry vpon the frontiers of Scotland, the great number of her ſubiectes that came to hym, were abuſed and falſely allured to ayde him, partly for defence of his poſſeſſion which he had gotten of certaine houſes wherunto he pretended title, though againſt the order of the lawes of the Realme, and partly to withſtand certaine incurſions that he vntruely pretended, ſhoulde be ſhortly made into thoſe borders by the outlawes of Scotland, and the Rebelles lately fled out of Englande: And nowe ſence the ſayde Leonarde Dacres contrary to his falſe perſwaſions, hath manifeſtly declared him ſelfe by his traytorous actes, to haue aſſembled this power only to make a newe rebellion againſt her Maieſtie and the crowne of this Realme: The multitude of her ſayd poore ſubiectes which were by ſuch falſe and traytorous deuices allured to come to him in force and armes, without knowledge of his traytorous intentes, haue moſt lamentably acknowledged and confeſſed their errors, and with clamors and outcryinges haue accurſed the ſayde Leonarde Dacres, as a moſt wicked and pernitious traytor, making moſt pitifull interceſſions, by meanes of her Maieſties right truſty and welbeloned coſyn the Lorde of Hunſdon, gouernour of the towne of Barwicke, and Lorde warden of the eaſt marches towarde Scotlande, that they might be receaued to her Maieſties mercie, and haue their pardons, with full intent to be hereafter during their liues, more carefull how to be abuſed, in like maner to aſſemble and arme themſelues vpon prouocation of any priuate ſubiect, hauyng no office nor auctoritie vnder her Maieſtie, as in deede the ſayde Leonarde Dacres had none. Herevpon her Maieſtie beyng ſpecially mooued by the information of her ſayde coſyn the Lord of Hunſdon, and alſo of the Lorde Scroope her warden vpon the ſame weſt borders, aſwell of the abuſe and errors of her ſayde ſubiectes, as of their repentanuce (amongſt whom, to her Maieſties great comfort, no gentleman of blood and eſtimation hath ben as yet founde to haue offended) hath ben pleaſed to extende her mercie in this ſort following. That it ſhalbe lefull for all her ſayd ſubiectes, which in this rebellion were in company with the ſayde Leonarde Dacres, or any wyſe attendyng or aſſyſting hym the xix. and xx. of the laſt moneth of February, to returne to their habitations and dwellyng places, and immediatly aſſoone as they may, to geue knowledge to the Lord Warden of the ſayde weſt marches, or to the Sheriffe of any of the ſhyres where their habitations were before their offences, or to ſuch inferior officers as they ſhall appoint for that purpoſe. And therevpon her Maieſtie wylleth and commaundeth, that no maner of officer or other perſon, ſhall moleſt them in their perſons, goods, chattelles, or landes, for their aſſyſtyng and aydyng of the ſayde Leonard Dacres in his ſayde treaſon: ſo as euery ſuch perſon after notice geuen to the ſayde Lorde warden, Sheryffe, or their miniſters, ſhall by the direction of them, ſubmit them ſelues to ſuch orders as by them ſhalbe notified, for recognition of their offences: and ſo conſequently euery of them ſhall haue and enioy theyr full pardons from her Maieſtie, whenſoeuer they ſhall ſue for the ſame in the Chauncery.

Prouided alwayes that this her Maieſties pardon ſhall not extende by any conſtruction to the ſayde Leonarde Dacres, nor any of his brethren, nor to any that dyd before offende in the late rebellion with the two Earles of Northumberlande & Weſtmerlande, nor to any Juſtices of Peace, Conſtables, Ryues, Bayliffes of Townes, or lande Seriantes: nor to any that at the publication of this Proclamation ſhalbe in priſon deteyned for this rebellion: nor to any perſons that ſhall be by the Lorde warden of the weſt borders, thought for their wylfull and contemptuous behauiour in this rebellion, or for lacke of their due repentaunce vnworthy of this mercy: ſo as the names of the ſayde perſons ſo to be thought vnworthy, be in writyng ſet vp to be read & openly ſeene at the market croſſe of Carliſle, or other market townes in the ſayde Wardenry, the day of the publication hereof.

And becauſe the vnworthyneſſe of the ſayde traytour Leonard Dacres, may in ſome part the more appeare to ſuche as be ignorannt thereof, her Maieſtie is content it be vnderſtande, that as ſhe hath ben by the goodneſſe of her nature abuſed by the two late Earles of Northumberlande and Weſtmerlande, ſo was ſhe euen in the beginning of the ſaide Earles rebellion contented, vpon ſute made by the ſayde Leonarde Dacres (notwithſtandyng ſhe had heard that he had ben the ſommer before ſecretlye conuerſant with the ſayde Earles) to admit him at Windſor to her preſence: where being priuately with her ſelfe, he made offers of his ſeruice againſt the ſayde Earles, beyng then proclaymed traytors, and moſt earneſtly requeſted her Maieſtie therein to commit truſt to hym, as to a moſt faithfull ſubiect and ſeruaunt, vſing many kind of ſpeaches, not without aſſurances by othes to prouoke her Maieſtie not onlye to offer hym her fauour, but to commit to hym charge to repayre into the place where he nowe committed this treaſon, and there to ioyne with her warden in ſeruice againſt the ſayde rebelles. Accordyng whereunto he departed in all haſte, and as hath ben ſince diſcouered to her Maieſtie, dyd then immediatly in his iourney comming neere the rebels, renewe his former conſpiracies by ſecret comforting the ſayde rebels, with promiſes of ayde of men and money, vſing for more credite the names of princes Ambaſſadours: and after that conſpired with them by letters and meſſages, vnder colour of gathering of force for ſeruice of her Maieſtie, to haue traytorouſlye deſtroyed the lorde Scroope in the feelde, & to haue taken the citie and caſtle of Carliſle, & there to haue murdered the byſhop. And not beyng able to compaſſe the ſame as he deſyred, ſeeing the two Earles forced to flee the Realme, he ſent meſſages and letters of his owne hand (which are extant to be ſeene) to certayne in Scotlande, requiring fauour to be ſhewed to the ſayd Earles, and promiſing (aſſoone as he coulde finde tyme) to ſhew him ſelfe an open freende to them, & ſo did he manifeſtly & traitorouſly perfourme the ſame, by fortifiyng the caſtle of Nawarde with men, munition, and vittaile, by aſſemblyng the Queenes Maieſties ſubiectes with firing of Beacons, and in the ende finding his power increaſed with a great number of Scottes, did enter into the playne feelde, againſt the Queenes Maieſties power vnder the conduct of the lorde of Hunſdon, which when he woulde haue vanquiſhed (as he certainely accompted that he myght by reaſon of his great numbers) he was forced like a traitor to flee, and all his owne power vanquiſhed by the iuſtice of Almightie God, aſſiſtyng her Maieſties wardens of her Eaſt & Middle marches, being in number farre inferiors, but in the goodnes of the cauſe farre ſuperiors, and of them through Gods goodnes very few hurt: whereof it is good for all perſons to take example, and to beware howe they ſhall follow the lewd perſwaſions of any other in cauſes vniuſt againſt their ſoueraigne Lady, beyng by Almightie God (as is manifeſtly ſeene) ordeyned to be the ſuperior and vanquiſher of all wicked perſons, and their attemptes.

Gyuen at the Queenes Maieſties honor of Hampton court the fourth day of Marche. 1569. in the twelfth yere of her Maieſties reigne.

God ſaue the Queene.

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